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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE DIVISION

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Clork, U. S. Dist. Court
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Donald A. Gardner Architects, Inc.,

Plaintiff,

VS.

Log Cabin Homes Ltd. a/k/a The Original Log Cabin Homes,

Defendant.

C.A. No.: 1:05CV/3

COMPLAINT

(DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL)

Plaintiff Donald A. Gardner Architects, Inc. ("GARDNER"), alleges the following in its Complaint against the Defendant, Log Cabin Homes, Ltd. a/k/a The Original Log Cabin Homes ("DEFENDANT"):

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This is an action at law and in equity for copyright infringement arising under the laws of the United States of America, codified at 17 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq.
- 2. This court has jurisdiction of the claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1338.
- 3. Venue in this district is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and 1400(a) as DEFENDANT either resides in this district, may be found in this district, is subject to personal jurisdiction in this district, and/or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this district.

THE PARTIES

4. GARDNER is a South Carolina corporation having its principal place of business in Greenville, South Carolina.

5. On information and belief, DEFENDANT is a Delaware corporation with a principal place of business in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 6. GARDNER is engaged in the business of creating, designing, producing, distributing, and marketing original architectural working drawings architectural works, and related technical drawings. GARDNER has won numerous awards and achieved recognition for the quality and originality of its work.
- 7. As part of its business, GARDNER has created certain architectural works and technical drawings (collectively referred to, along with any predecessors or derivatives thereof) as the "GARDNER Designs"):
 - a. "Donald A. Gardner's Design #225 named the "Riverbend" (the "GARDNER Design"), a rendering and floor plan of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The copyright in this work has been registered with the United States Copyright Office as evidenced by Certificate of Registration No. VA 599 481, attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 8. The GARDNER Design contains material wholly original to GARDNER that is copyrightable subject matter under 17 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq.
- 9. GARDNER is currently, and at all relevant times has been, the sole owner of all right, title and interest in and to the copyrights in the GARDNER Design.
- 10. All lawful copies and distributions of the GARDNER Design have been made by GARDNER, or under GARDNER's consent or permission.

11. The GARDNER Design has been marketed and distributed on at least a nationwide basis, and DEFENDANT has had access to it.

DEFENDANT AND ITS ACTIONS

- 12. DEFENDANT is a log home manufacturer.
- DEFENDANT has been engaged, at least in part, in the business of creating, publishing, distributing, marketing, advertising, and selling residential home designs for log homes through traditional print media and the World Wide Web on sites such as www.logcabinhomes.com, and in marketing, advertising, constructing, manufacturing and selling log cabin homes and/or log cabin home construction materials according to such plans.
- 14. DEFENDANT has published, distributed, marketed, and advertised certain architectural designs for single family residential homes, each consisting of a floor plan and exterior elevations, that DEFENDANT has identified and marketed as follows:

The "Magnolia", (referred to, along with any copies or derivatives thereof under the same or different names, as the "Infringing Design"). A photocopy of the Infringing Design is attached hereto as Exhibit "C".

- 15. DEFENDANT has marketed, advertised, constructed, manufactured and sold log cabin homes and/or log cabin home construction materials that are based on the Infringing Design.
- 16. On information and belief, DEFENDANT has constructed "model houses" that are based on the Infringing Design, and has used such model houses in its advertising and marketing activities.

COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

(17 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq.)

- 17. GARNDER reiterates and realleges the above allegations.
- DEFENDANT has violated and continues to violate GARDNER's exclusive rights in the GARDNER Design (including the right to reproduce, right to prepare derivative works, and right to vend) by copying, publishing, distributing, advertising, marketing, selling, and/or constructing in the marketplace in this district, and all marketplaces reached by the World Wide Web, architectural works and technical drawings which were copied or otherwise derived from the GARDNER Design or GARDNER derivatives thereof, as detailed below:

DEFENDANT's "Magnolia" (and any copies or derivatives thereof under the same name or a different name) infringes the GARDNER Design (and any predecessor or derivative thereof).

- 19. As a direct and proximate result of DEFENDANT's wrongful conduct, GARDNER has been damaged.
- 20. DEFENDANT's infringement of GARDNER copyrights has been and continues to be committed willfully.
- 21. GARDNER generally avers that all conditions precedent to its rights of recovery have occurred or have been performed.

RELIEF SOUGHT

WHEREFORE, GARDNER prays that this honorable Court do the following:

- 22. Permanently enjoin and restrain DEFENDANT, its officers, directors, principals, agents, servants, employees, successors, and assigns, and all those in active concert or participation with it, from:
 - a. imitating, copying, or making any unauthorized use of the GARDNER Design or any GARDNER predecessor or derivative thereof in any manner, and from publishing, distributing, selling, advertising, marketing, building, constructing or otherwise disposing of any copies or derivatives of the GARDNER Design and GARDNER derivatives thereof;
 - b. manufacturing, producing, building, constructing, distributing, circulating, selling, offering for sale, advertising, promoting, or displaying any product bearing any simulation, reproduction, counterfeit, copy, derivative, or colorable imitation of the GARDNER's Design and GARDNER derivatives thereof; and
 - c. using any simulation, reproduction, counterfeit, copy, derivative, or colorable imitation of the GARDNER's Design or GARDNER derivatives thereof, in connection with the promotion, advertisement, display, sale, offering for sale, manufacture, production, building, construction, circulation, or distribution of any product or service.
- 23. Direct DEFENDANT to deliver up to be impounded during the pendency of this action under 17 U.S.C. § 503 all copies or derivatives of the GARDNER's Design or of GARDNER derivatives thereof in DEFENDANT's possession or under DEFENDANT's

- control and to deliver up for destruction all infringing copies and all devices used for making such infringing copies, including any homes that have been constructed in violation of GARDNER's copyrights.
- 24. Direct DEFENDANT to disclose to GARDNER the names and addresses of all persons and entities who have purchased or licensed the Infringing Design, who have had homes constructed from it, or have purchased homes constructed from it.
- 25. Direct DEFENDANT to issue a recall notice to each person who has purchased or licensed the Infringing Design or who has had a home constructed from the Infringing Design, informing each such person that the Infringing Design has been determined to constitute an infringement of GARDNER's copyright and that the person cannot resell or vend the Infringing Design or any home constructed from it without the permission of GARDNER.
- 26. Direct DEFENDANT to pay GARDNER such damages as the jury determines GARDNER has sustained in consequence of DEFENDANT's infringing GARDNER's copyrights, and to account for all gains, profits, and advantages derived by DEFENDANT by its infringements of GARDNER's copyrights under 17 U.S.C. § 504(b), or at GARDNER's election, statutory damages under 17 U.S.C. § 504(c), which permits a recovery of up to \$150,000 for infringement of each copyrighted work.
- 27. Direct DEFENDANT to pay GARDNER's costs of this action and its reasonable attorney's fees allowable to GARDNER by the court under 17 U.S.C. § 505.
- 28. Award to GARDNER such other and further relief as the Court may consider appropriate.

29. GARDNER requests a jury trial as to all matters other than the equitable remedies sought herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Bakker (N.C. Bar No. 21906)

WYCHE BURGESS FREEMAN & PARHAM, P.A.

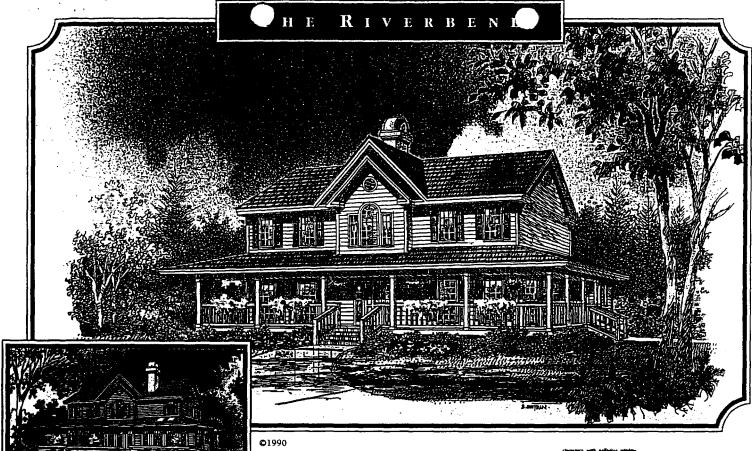
Post Office Box 728

Greenville, South Carolina 29602-0728

Telephone: (864) 242-8200 Facsimile: (864) 235-8900 mbakker@wyche.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

Dated: January 20, 2005



Plan 121-225

Total living: 2692 s.f. First floor: 1734 s.f. Second floor: 958 s.f. 4 Bedrooms, 3-1/2 Baths

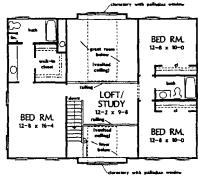
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A double gabled roof with front and rear palladian windows give this wrap-around porch plan a stately elegance.

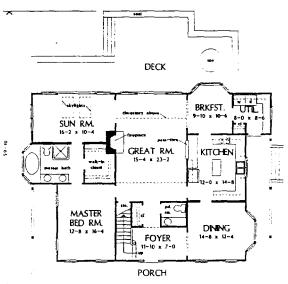
Vaulted ceilings in the two-story foyer and great room reinforce the visual drama of the palladian windows while a loft/study overlooks both areas.

The spacious first floor master suite accesses the large sun room from a luxurious master bath with garden tub. shower, and double , vanity.

The covered porch and outstanding deck with seating and spa expand living space outdoors. Upstairs one of the three bedrooms Case 5:05-cV-00184-WW could be a second master with private bath.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



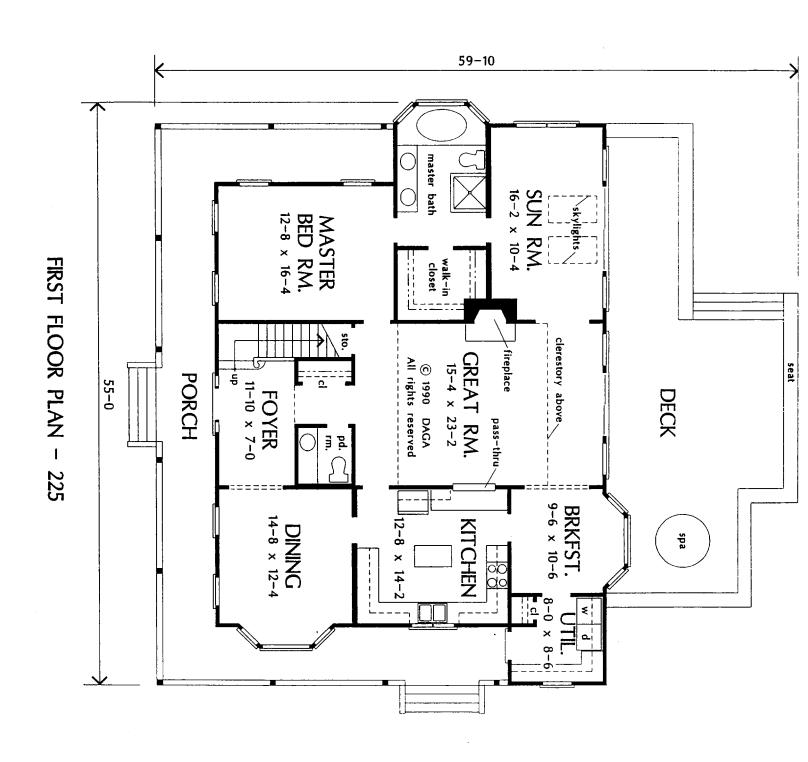
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FRONT ELEVATION -

© 1990 DAGA All Rights Reserved

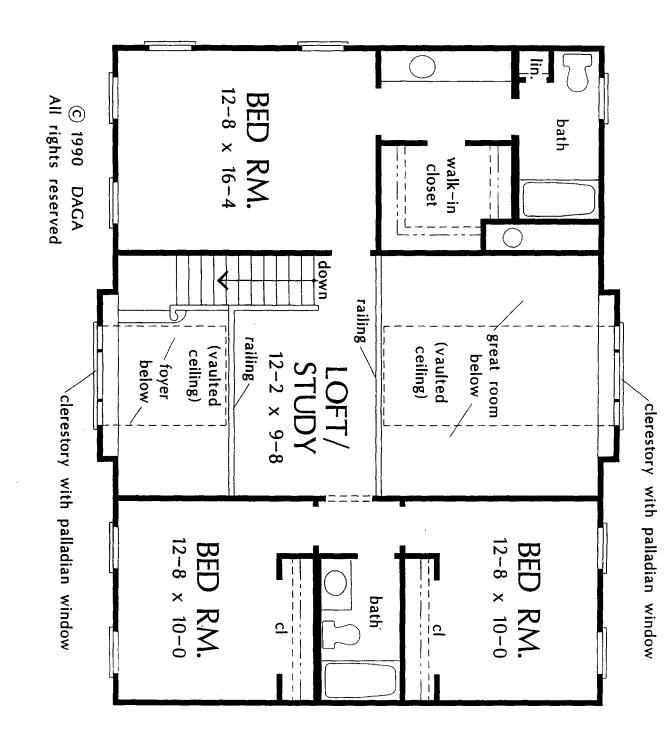
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This Certifica sued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with title 17, United States Code, attests that registration has been made for the work identified below. The information on this certificate has been

REGISTRATION NUMBER VA 599 481

For a Work of the Visual Arts UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT OFFICE

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17 U.S.C. § 506(a): Any person who knowledge, makes a Blanch respectively of a many written statement filled in connection with the application, shall be fined not more than \$2,500.

Certificate will be

mailed in

window envelope Greenville, SC

29606

City/State/ZIP ▼

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Register of Copyrights Library of Congress Washington, D.C. 20559



The Original Log Cabin Homes Ltd. 513 Keen Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27804. 1-800-562-2246 1-252-454-1550 Fax info@logcabinhomes.com

Magnolia

Approximately 3,270 Sq.Ft (304 Sq.M) 62' x 40' (19m x 12m) Porch 904 Sq.Ft (84 Sq.M)

All our designs can be modified to meet your needs and dreams

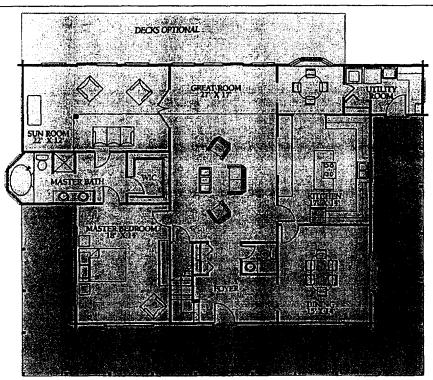
Artist rendering, actual plans may vary



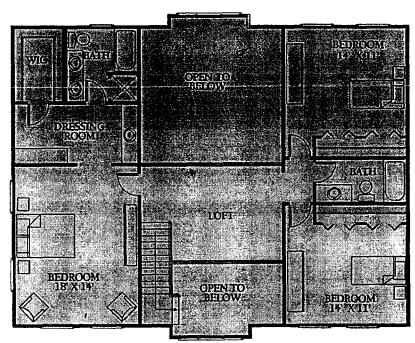




The Original Log Cabin Homes Ltd. 513 Keen Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27804. 1-800-562-2246 1-252-454-1550 Fax info@logcabinhomes.com



First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan